

## Claims

[c1] What I claim as my invention is a method for a single, enterprise-wide virtual computer (Virtual Enterprise Computer) using a network of physically dispersed, traditional computers operating as a single entity comprising (a) a single, enterprise-wide Persistent Address Space to uniquely identify and location enterprise data and intellectual assets, (b) a single, enterprise-wide, persistent memory (Persistent Enterprise Memory) as a single source for all enterprise data, information, resources and intellectual assets (c) an enterprise-wide, persistent, logical knowledge infrastructure that models the business enterprise by maintaining relationships between business processes, workflows, business rules, business metrics, data, resources, legacy systems and intellectual assets detailing all significant enterprise entities regardless if they are tangible or intangible, (d) self-aware Agents encapsulating data and computer code, (e) System Libraries to implement the Virtual Enterprise Computer logical operations and to interface computer applications to the Virtual Enterprise Computer, and (f) a Real-Time Event/Logic Controller to manage the execution of agents, whereby said system

operates as a single logical enterprise-wide computing system to provide all the data processing and data storage required by a business enterprise, whereby said system is a single coherent source of enterprise data, information, documents, resources and intellectual assets eliminating data pollution, erroneous data, and data duplication, whereby said system is a shared repository of timely (real-time) business information creating an enterprise-wide collaboration environment enhancing the flow and sharing of knowledge and information and source of business intelligence, whereby said system is a platform for enterprise computer application integration providing enterprise-wide computer application management, whereby said system is a real-time model of the business enterprise integrating functional business units and independent processes and workflows into integrated coherent views of the business, whereby said system conserves knowledge assets, whereby said method is an extensible and expandable to adapt to changing requirements and needs, and whereby said system is the foundation architecture and knowledge infrastructure to uniquely support strategic business initiatives including:

- (a) the Seamless Business Enterprise,
- (b) the Real-Time Business Enterprise,
- (c) Enterprise Knowledge Management,

- (d) Single-View of the Business Enterprise,
- (e) Enterprise Application Integration,
- (f) the Coherent Business Enterprise,
- (g) Straight-Through-Processing,
- (h) Collaborative Work Environments,
- (i) Mergers and Acquisitions,
- (j) Single View of Customers and Suppliers,
- (k) Enterprise Resource Planning,
- (l) Enterprise Business Process Reengineering,
- (m) Intelligent Business Enterprise,
- (n) Enterprise Business Intelligence, and
- (o) Optimized Business Enterprise
- (p) Enterprise Business Modeling.